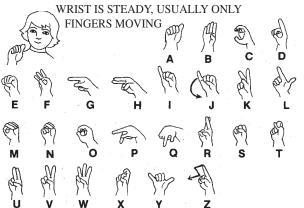
# MANUAL ALPHABET

WHEN SPÈLLING, ARM IS IN NEAR CHEST, WRIST IS STEADY, USUALLY ONLY



AL OF EUREN STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

PUB 179A (4/07)

# **COMMUNICATION SUGGESTIONS**

It is hoped this card will alleviate some communication problems between law officials and deaf people. Deaf people 1) have not responded correctly to police because they could not be lipread, 2) have reached for paper/pencil and were assumed to be reaching for weapons, 3) have not heeded police warnings because they could not hear them.

Although the speech of deaf people sounds different from that of hearing people, there is no direct cause-effect relationship between deafness and inability to speak. The terms "deaf-mute" and "deaf and dumb" are incorrect and are considered insults by the deaf.

Messages need not include signs for all words in English sentences. For example, the words in parentheses may be understood by context, natural body movement, etc. "(Were any) people hurt? I need (some) paper (and a) pencil." Many sentences can be made from the signs on this card; e.g. "Please show me your registration card."

When asking questions, lean forward, use a questioning expression, and hold the last sign. Use natural gestures, eg. headshakes for agreement and negation.

In the sign illustrations, dotted hands show starting positions.

Use the manual alphabet to fingerspell names and other key words for which you have no sign. Be sure to speak when signing; lipreading and use of residual hearing help. It is easier to sign than to understand signs, so be patient. Also, since speaking is easier than lipreading, deaf people can often speak understandably, but cannot understand others without signs or writing.

# LOCAL INTERPRETERS AND SERVICES SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Cypress: (714) 826-9793 Voice/TTY Los Angeles: (323) 478-8000 Voice

(323) 478-8000 Voice (323) 550-4226 TTY

Riverside: (909) 275-5000 Voice/TTY

San Diego: (619) 398-2441 Voice (619) 398-2440 TTY

Ventura: (805) 644-6322 Voice

(805) 644-6323 TTY

#### **CENTRAL CALIFORNIA:**

Fresno:

(559) 225-3323 Voice

(559) 225-0415 TTY

Merced: (209) 726-7783 Voice

(209) 726-7786 TTY

Salinas: (831) 753-6540 Voice (831) 753-6541 TTY

#### **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:**

Sacramento: (916) 349-7500 Voice/TTY

Stockton (209) 474-1573 Voice

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### **BAY AREA AND NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:**

San Leandro: (415) 483-0753 Voice

(415) 483-6914 TTY

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# A MANUAL COMMUNICATION GUIDE FOR FIELD OFFICERS

Originated by Frank Caccamise/Carolyn Norris

California Department of Social Services
Office of Deaf Access

## **DEAF ACCESS PROGRAM**

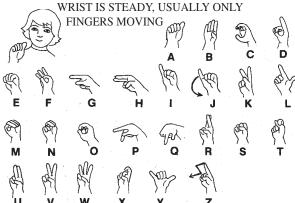
744 P Street, MS 11-91, Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 653-8320 (Voice) (916) 653-7651 (TTY)

www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/OfficeofDe 189.htm

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